Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A process for coating a perforated substrate with a gel without substantial occlusion of the perforations for use as a wound dressing, which process comprises:

(i) forming a layer of a liquid pregel mixture, comprising one or more monomers, on a web coated with a coating having a surface energy less than the surface energy of the liquid pregel mixture wherein the web comprises paper, polyester, polyolefin or any combination thereof and/or the coating of the web comprises silicone, polyethylene, polyvinyl fluoride, polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) or any mixture or combination thereof;

(ii) contacting the perforated substrate with the liquid pregel mixture; and

(iii) curing the liquid pregel mixture, ~~wherein the perforated substrate is coated with a gel comprising the cured pregel mixture without substantial occlusion of the perforations~~ wherein the liquid pregel mixture reticulates along the perforated substrate so that the perforations become free of the pregel because of the difference in surface energy between the pregel and the web.

2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A process according to claim ~~1~~ 18, wherein the layer of the liquid pregel mixture is formed by extrusion of the liquid pregel mixture onto the web.

3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A process according to claim ~~1~~ 18, wherein the contacting of the perforated substrate with the liquid pregel mixture is achieved by applying the substrate to the pregel mixture on the web.

4. (ORIGINAL) A process according to claim 3, wherein the weight of liquid pregel mixture on the web is between about 0.01 to about 3 kg/m^2.

5. (ORIGINAL) A process according to claim 1, wherein at least some of the curing takes place while the liquid pregel mixture is in contact with both the perforated substrate and the web.

6. (ORIGINAL) A process according to claim 1, wherein at least some of the curing takes place while the liquid pregel mixture is in contact with the perforated substrate after removal of the web.

7. (CANCELED)

8. (CANCELED)

9. (ORIGINAL) A process according claim 1, wherein the perforated substrate is planar, having first and second major faces, and the process applies the gel to at least a portion of at least one major face of the substrate.

10. (ORIGINAL) A process according to claim 9, wherein the planar perforated substrate comprises woven or non-woven fibers of cotton, rayon, polyester, polyamide, polypropylene, wool or any mixture or combination thereof.

11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A process according to claim ~~1~~ 18, wherein the one or more monomers comprise at least one acrylate based monomer.

12. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A process according to claim ~~1~~ 18, wherein the liquid pregel mixture includes one or more crosslinking agents for the monomer(s).

13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A process according to claim ~~1~~ 18, wherein the liquid pregel mixture is an aqueous mixture, optionally including also at least one plasticising agent other than water.

14. (ORIGINAL) A process according to claim 13, wherein the liquid pregel mixture includes from about 3% to about 40% by weight of water.

15. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A process according to claim ~~1~~ 18, wherein the curing is performed by heat, ultra-violet irradiation, electron beam irradiation or any combination thereof.

16. (CANCELED)

17. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A process according to claim ~~1~~ 18, wherein the gel is formed by polymerization of one of more monomers, optionally in the presence of one or more crosslinking agents for the monomer(s).

18. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A process according to claim 1, wherein only one side of the substrate is coated by the gel.

19. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A process according to claim 18, wherein the gel coat is protected by a contacting release sheet.

20. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) ~~An article~~ A perforated wound dressing comprising a gel-coated, perforated substrate according to claim 19~~, the article being an attachment tab for a wig or toupee, a wound dressing, a patch for transdermal drug delivery, a therapeutic patch or a biomedical skin electrode~~.

21. (CANCELED)

22. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A process according to claim ~~21~~ 18, wherein the gel coat is protected by a contacting release sheet.

23. (CANCELED)

24. (ORIGINAL) A process according to claim 2, wherein the contacting of the perforated substrate with the liquid pregel mixture is achieved by applying the substrate to the pregel mixture on the web.

25. (ORIGINAL) A process according to claim 24, wherein the weight of liquid pregel mixture on the web is between about 0.01 to about 3 kg/m^2.

26. (ORIGINAL) A process according to claim 25, wherein at least some of the curing takes place while the liquid pregel mixture is in contact with both the perforated substrate and the web.

27. (ORIGINAL) A process according to claim 26, wherein at least some of the curing takes place while the liquid pregel mixture is in contact with the perforated substrate after removal of the web.

28. (ORIGINAL) A process according to claim 27, wherein the web comprises paper, polyester, polyolefin or any combination thereof.

29. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A process according to claim 28, wherein the coating of the web comprises silicone, polyethylene, polyvinyl fluoride, polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) or any mixture or combination thereof.

30. (ORIGINAL) A process according claim 29, wherein the perforated substrate is planar, having first and second major faces, and the process applies the gel to at least a portion of at least one major face of the substrate.

31. (ORIGINAL) A process according to claim 30, wherein the planar perforated substrate comprises woven or non-woven fibers of cotton, rayon, polyester, polyamide, polypropylene, wool or any mixture or combination thereof.

32. (ORIGINAL) A process according to claim 31, wherein the one or more monomers comprise at least one acrylate based monomer.

33. (ORIGINAL) A process according to claim 32, wherein the liquid pregel mixture includes one or more crosslinking agents for the monomer(s).

34. (ORIGINAL) A process according to claim 33, wherein the liquid pregel mixture is an aqueous mixture, optionally including also at least one plasticising agent other than water.

35. (ORIGINAL) A process according to claim 34, wherein the liquid pregel mixture includes from about 3% to about 40% by weight of water.

36. (ORIGINAL) A process according to claim 35, wherein the curing is performed by heat, ultra-violet irradiation, electron beam irradiation or any combination thereof.

37. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A ~~gel-coated, perforated substrate~~ perforated wound dressing obtained by a process according to claim 36.

38. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A ~~gel-coated, perforated substrate~~ perforated wound dressing, wherein the ~~substrate is~~ perforated wound dressing contains a substrate coated with a cured ~~gel~~ hydrogel formed by polymerization of one or more monomers, of one or more monomers, optionally in the presence of one or more crosslinking agents for the monomer(s), the perforations of the substrate being substantially unoccluded by the hydrophilic gel and the coated substrate being obtainable by a process according to claim 37.

39. (CANCELED)

40. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A gel-coated, perforated substrate according to claim ~~39~~ 38, wherein the gel coat is protected by a contacting release sheet.

41. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A~~n article~~ perforated wound dressing comprising a gel-coated, perforated substrate according to claim 40~~, the article being an attachment tab for a wig or toupee, a wound dressing, a patch for transdermal drug delivery, a therapeutic patch or a biomedical skin electrode~~.

42. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A ~~gel-coated~~, perforated ~~substrate~~ wound dressing comprising a~~, wherein the~~ substrate ~~is~~ coated with a cured hydrogel ~~gel~~ formed by polymerization of one or more monomers, of one or more monomers, in the presence of one or

more crosslinking agents for the monomer(s), wherein the perforations of the substrate are substantially unoccluded by the hydrophilic gel and wherein one side of the substrate is coated by the gel.

43. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The ~~gel-coated, perforated substrate~~ perforated wound dressing of claim 42, wherein the gel coat is protected by a contacting release sheet.

44. (CANCELED)

45. (NEW) The process according to claim 18, wherein the perforations are at least about 90% unoccluded.

46. (NEW) A process for coating a perforated substrate with a gel without substantial occlusion of the perforations for use as a wound dressing, comprising:

(a) forming a layer of a liquid pregel mixture, comprising one or more monomers on a web coated with a coating having a surface energy less than the surface energy of the liquid pregel mixture;

(b) contacting the perforated substrate, wherein the perforated substrate comprises woven or non-woven fibers; and

(c) curing the liquid pregel mixture, wherein the liquid pregel mixture reticulates so that the perforations become free of the liquid pregel mixture because of the difference in surface energy between the pregel and the web.